

# Union Budget: Allocation for schemes for rape survivors given a miss, says CEHAT

'No financial aid to states to implement Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act or to set up one-stop crisis centres'

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AFTER analysing the Union Budget for fiscal 2015-16, the Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT) found that allocation for schemes meant for rape survivors had been disappointing—with no financial assistance to states to implement the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA) or to set up one-stop crisis centres.

The CEHAT team also took into account New Delhi based Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability's analysis to understand the funds allocated for development of schemes and their implementation to respond to violence against women for fiscal 2015-2016.

"Considering the propositions in the umbrella scheme to empower women in 2013, the expectation was that the government would allocate adequate financial resources dedicated to a comprehensive response to survivors of violence against women. However, a look at the budget allocation (2015- 2016) made for schemes meant for rape survivors was extremely disappointing. The budget allocated for components mentioned in the Union Budget is 25 per cent of the fund requirement proposed in the umbrella scheme (2013-17)," members of CEHAT team said.

There was almost no budget for restorative justice for rape survivors, assistance to states or implementation of Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act and setting up of one stop crisis centres, the team claimed.

Despite a commitment made by the finance minister to pledge Rs 1,000 crore,

## BUDGET ALLOCATIONS BY UNION GOVT

Component	2014-2015 Budget Estimate	2014-15 Revised Estimate	2015-16 Budget Estimate
Swadhar Greh	115	30	50
Restorative justice to rape victims	20	0	0
Assistance to states for implementation of PWDVA	50	0	0
One stop crisis centre	20	0	2

All figures in Crore  
Source: CBGA Analysis of union budget 2015- 2016

Considering the propositions in the umbrella scheme to empower women in 2013, the expectation was that the govt would allocate adequate financial resources. However, a look at the budget allocation (2015- 2016) made for schemes meant for rape survivors was extremely disappointing. The budget allocated for components mentioned in the Union budget is 25% of the fund requirement proposed in the scheme

CEHAT TEAM

no rationale was provided for why the Union Budget did not allocate financial support to these components. The budget also did not make any financial commitment for the implementation of PWDVA.

"It has been 10 years since the law was passed but several states do not have protection officers. The success of the law is contingent on the availability of these dedicated officers. Had the budget been provided for the appointment of POs, it would have assisted the smooth implementation of PWDVA. However, no funds have been allocated even for the Act," members said.

For restorative justice to rape victims component, the fund was allocated in the Union Budget. The NCRB recorded 33,707 incident of rape in 2013. If all these survivors were to receive compensation under the restorative justice to rape component, the budget would have to be to the effect of Rs 674 crore (2 lakh

per victim as mentioned in the umbrella scheme).

But the Union Budget estimate in crores is "0". Such a move was deplorable and the government must state the rationale for the same, the CEHAT team demanded.

They have also lamented that the Dilaasa model had not been referred to at all. Dilaasa represents an integrated response to violence against women at public hospitals, and was set up in 2000 in two Mumbai-based hospitals. According to the CEHAT team, the state had made an allocation of Rs 93.6 lakh to upscale the Dilaasa model in 11 peripheral hospitals.

"There is a need, however, to integrate Dilaasa-like centres across the country. There is also a need to understand that crisis intervention services need to be set up within different institutions such as the health department, police stations and courts that survivors/victims have to access for justice and care," members said.